

ROUTINE

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1. THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS WERE EXCERPTED FROM THE SPCG UNIT HISTORY FOR 1962 FOR RELEASE:

"UPON DECLARATION OF A READINESS STATUS AS A RESULT OF THE CUBAN INCIDENT, THE SILK PURSE CONTROL GROUP ASSUMED A TWO-HOUR DISPERSAL ALERT' ON 24 OCTOBER 1962. THE FIRST AIRBORNE OPERATIONS CENTER (ABNOC) WAS SCRAMBLED TO BEGIN 24-HOUR COVERAGE WHICH CONTINUED UNTIL 11 NOVEMBER 1962. ON 27 OCTOBER 1962 TWO ABNOCs WERE DISPERSED TO EVREUX AIR FORCE BASE FROM WHICH THEY OPERATED ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS UNTIL THE 23D OF NOVEMBER WHEN NORMAL OPERATIONS WERE RESUMED AT CHATEAUROUX AIR STATION. DURING THIS PERIOD 46 MISSIONS WERE FLOWN FOR A TOTAL OF 558 HOURS."

"THE COMMUNICATIONS RELAY CAPABILITY OF ABNOC WAS TESTED THOROUGHLY DURING THE CUBAN CRISIS' COMMUNICATIONS TRAFFIC FROM SACEUR/USCINCEUR TO SUBORDINATE COMMANDS WAS PASSED TO THE ABNOC FOR TEST OF MESSAGE HANDLING CAPACITY AND DELIVERY SPEED. AS A RESULT, FORMAL MESSAGE TRAFFIC INCREASED SEVERAL TIMES OVER THAT NORMALLY HANDLED DURING ROUTINE TRAINING EXERCISES. THE RESULTS SHOW THAT FORMAL MESSAGE TRAFFIC COULD BE RELAYED EXPEDITIOUSLY BY THE ABNOC UNDER OPTIMUM CONDITIONS BUT PROBLEMS OF PROPAGATION AND EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS BECAME EVIDENT."

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